

Message Text

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63

ACTION ABF-01

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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8548

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS EC BRUSSELS 2677

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: AFSP, EEC

SUBJECT: GAO REVIEW OF BUY NATIONAL POLICIES AND PRACTICES

REF: A. STATE 64436 B. EC BRUSSELS 981 C. EC BRUSSELS 1748

1. THE MISSION WELCOMES THE VISIT OF THE GAO AUDITORS BUT THEY SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THOUGH EC MEMBER STATES HAVE NATIONAL PROCUREMENT POLICIES AND PRACTICESN THE COMMUNITY DOES NOT IN GENERAL YET HAVE A HARMONIZED OR COORDINATED PUBLIC PROCUREMENT POLICY. THE MAJOR EC EFFORT IN THE AREA OF GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT IS A DRAFT DIRECTIVE PREPARED BY THE COMMISSION AND SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL IN 1973 DESIGNED TO ELIMINATE THE DISCRIMINATORY NATIONAL PROCUREMENT POLICIES OF THE MEMBER STATES. THIS DIRECTIVE IS STILL AWAITING FINAL COUNCIL ACTION. THE MISSION'S MOST RECENT REPORT IS IN REG B.

2. THE COMMUNITY IS ALSO DEVELOPING SECTORAL POLICIES IN THE AVIATION AND ELECTRONIC DATA PROCESSING FIELDS THAT ARE DESIGNED TO FURTHER "EUROPEAN"- BASED COMPANIES INTER ALIA VIA PUBLIC PROCUREMENT. SHOULD THESE POLICIES EVER BECOME EFFECTIVE, THEY COULD ALSO HAVE SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS FOR US EXPORT INTERESTS. THE MISSION'S LATES REPORT IS IN REF C.

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3. APART FROM THE FOREEOING, THE EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT
FUND (EDF) WHICH FINANCES DEVELOPMENT PORJECTS IN
THE ACP ASSOCIATED COUNTRIES, HS REGULATIONS
LIMITING PROCUREMENT TO MEMBER STATES AND THE ACP
COUNTRIES.

4.THE MISSION WOULD BE PLEASED TO DISCUSS THE ABOVE
MATTERS WITH THE GAO AUDITORS.
GREENWALD

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